(b) if so, the concrete steps taken by India in this regard; and

(c) the proposed space programmes for next five years and the names of the areas of space-science they are related to including advance communication system, navigation, space-transport, and earth-monitoring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The International Astronautical Congress 2007 addressed the need for evolving a co-operative strategy of international community in space exploration including means for protection of space assets. India is a member of the International Committee on Peaceful uses of Outer Space which discusses such issues to evolve strategies related to protection of space assets. India has also taken up studies on the subject.

(c) The Space programme envisaged for the next five years includes development of advanced launch vehicle systems such as GSLV Mk III, Space Capsule Recovery Experiment and technologies for Manned Mission; Augmenting the INSAT/GSAT system towards meeting the satellite communications requirements; establishing Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System; enhanced imaging capabilities with Microwave and Optical remote sensing satellites; undertake front ranking research in the areas of Space Science, Astronomy and Planetary exploration including Chandrayaan.

Water mafia in Delhi

†1912. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of water in litres being stolen by water mafia in Delhi;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that on the bank of Nizamuddin bridge on Yamuna, on the land of Delhi State Mineral Corporation illegal water is being stolen by water mafia on more than twenty places by boring; and

(c) if so, the action that is being taken by Government against those indulging in illegal exploitation of water in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Delhi Police has informed that no such instance has come to their notice. Delhi Jal Board has reported that due to unplanned growth in various parts of the city it is not easy to quantify the quantum of water which may be lost on account of theft.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Protection of walled cities

1913. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to protect, preserve and restore the walled old cities of India that are great cultural and architectural heritage of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.